

Library

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Health of the West Kesteven
Rural District

BY THE

Medical Officer of Health

R. M. ROSS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

TO WHICH IS APPENDED THE
REPORT OF THE

Chief Sanitary Inspector

J. DEAN, F.F.S.(Eng.), Cert. R.S.I.

1952



West Kesteven Rural District Council

Reconstituted under the Parts of Kesteven (Alteration of Districts and Parishes) Order, 1930.

List of Parishes

Allington	Hougham
Ancaster	Hough-on-the-Hill
Barkston	Ingoldsby
Barrowby	Lenton, Keisby and Osgodby
Belton and Manthorpe	Little Ponton and Stroxton
Bitchfield and Bassingthorpe	Londonthorpe and
Boothby Pagnell	Harrowby Without
Braceby and Sapperton	Long Bennington
Burton Coggles	Marston
Carlton Scroop	Normanton
Caythorpe	North Witham
Claypole	Old Somerby
Colsterworth	Pickworth
Denton	Ropsley and Humby
Easton	Sedgebrook
Fenton	Skillington
Foston	South Witham
Fulbeck	Stoke Rochford
Great Gonerby	Stubton
Great Ponton	Syston
Gunby and Stainby	Welby
Harlaxton	Westborough and Dry
Heydour	Doddington
Honington	Woolsthorpe
	Wyville-cum-Hungerton

WEST KESTEVEN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health and Waterworks Committee, 1952.

CHAIRMAN :

Councillor Major H. R. E. E. WELBY, C.M.G., J.P.

VICE-CHAIRMAN :

Councillor J. F. DODDS.

MEMBERS :

Alderman F. J. JENKINSON, J.P., (Ex-officio)

„ J. W. MILNER, J.P. (Ex-officio)

Councillor C. B. BAILEY, J.P.

„ Sir H. J. F. S. CHOLMELEY, Bart., D.S.O.,
D.L., J.P.

Alderman G. A. JENKINSON

Councillor G. C. PORTER

„ H. MARTIN

„ G. NUSSEY

„ R. L. NEWTON

„ D. E. DIXON

„ B. SHIPMAN

„ Mrs. F. H. NORMAN

„ A. V. SHEARDOWN

„ J. CHESHIRE

„ T. W. ALLEN

„ J. W. OXBY

„ J. A. DALE

„ Major H. B. TURNOR, M.C., J.P.

„ G. W. SENTANCE

„ R. MERRICK

„ R. H. PACEY

„ Lt. Col. L. WOOD, M.C.

**Housing and Town and Country Planning
Committee, 1952**

CHAIRMAN :

Alderman J. W. MILNER, J.P. (Ex-officio)

VICE-CHAIRMAN :

Councillor A. V. SHEARDOWN

MEMBERS :

Alderman	F. J. JENKINSON, J.P. (Ex-officio)
,,	G. A. JENKINSON
Councillor	C. B. BAILEY, J.P., (Ex-Officio)
,,	Major H. B. TURNOR, M.C., J.P.
,,	Major H. R. E. E. WELBY, C.M.G., J.P.
,,	H. MARTIN
,,	G. NUSSEY
,,	Lt. Col. L. WOOD, M.C.
,,	J. C. RICKETT
,,	Mrs. F. H. NORMAN
,,	W/Cdr. A. E. F. McCREARY
,,	J. A. DALE
,,	R. S. CLARK
,,	J. F. DODDS
,,	H. D. STONE
,,	D. Le MARCHANT
,,	G. GEESON
,,	Mrs. W. H. D. ELNOR
,,	R. H. PACEY
,,	A. C. SERGEANT
,,	G. W. TINKLER
,,	J. W. OXBY
,,	R. MERRICK
,,	B. SHIPMAN,

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health :

R. M. ROSS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

J. DEAN, F.F.S. (Eng.) Cert. R.San.I.

Sanitary Inspectors :

J. S. SIMMS, M.S.I.A., C.R.San.I.

M. F. JOHNSON, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.

Technical Assistant :

G. W. HAYES

Clerks :

J. R. CLARKE

J. I. GORDON (From Dec., 1952)

Mrs. M. E. McDONALD (To Oct., 1952)

Mrs. D. M. WILKS (From Sept., 1952)

Miss J. SMITH

WEST KESTEVEN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

STATISTICAL SUMMARY 1952.

Population (estimated for the year)	18,430
Area	122,406 acres
Rateable value	£69,102
Estimated Product of Penny Rate	£278

BIRTHS	Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	306	158	148
Illegitimate	15	11	4
Stillbirths	10	4	6

BIRTH RATE	17.42	per 1,000	population
Average for England & Wales	15.3	per 1,000	population

INFANT DEATHS

Under 1 year	14	9	5
Legitimate	12	7	5
Illegitimate	2	2	—

INFANTILE DEATH RATE	43.6	per 1,000	live births
Average for England & Wales	27.6	per 1,000	live births

DEATH RATE

Crude Death Rate	9.55	per 1,000	population
Death Rate (corrected for age & sex)	8.98	per 1,000	population
Average for England & Wales	11.3	per 1,000	population

	Total	Males	Females
TOTAL DEATHS at all ages	176	91	85

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
19, Watergate,
Grantham.
28th May, 1953.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health, Statistics, and Sanitary conditions of the West Kesteven Rural District for the year 1952.

The Birth and Death Rates again show a marked superiority to those for the country as a whole. The Infant Death Rate, while showing a slight improvement on that of the previous year, continues to lag badly behind the national level and is still disturbingly high for a rural area. The great majority of these infant deaths occurred in the first month and most were classed as being due to Prematurity. Efficient ante-natal care is the only method known at present of reducing this risk, and it may be that, owing to distance and difficulties of transport, women in the district find it more difficult to take full advantage of the facilities for this supervision available through the National Health Service.

Measles was epidemic in many villages in the course of the year, and its gradual progress from village to village meant that there is no evidence of the biennial fall it normally shows. Incidence has been high for the past three years and it shows no sign of abating. Whooping Cough, now potentially one of the most serious of the prevalent infections of childhood, was considerably less frequent than in 1951 but still much higher than the annual average. Fortunately the majority of cases of both infections were relatively mild and this fact, combined with the efficiency of the newer drugs in dealing with complications, meant that hospital admission was rarely required and that there were no deaths from either. Diphtheria was again absent; there was no maternal death; and the increase in notifications of childbed infections was due to stricter conditions of notification laid down by the Ministry, rather than to any real increase. The two cases of Poliomyelitis were not severe and the position never gave rise to anxiety compared with that experienced in 1950.

Notification of new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis continued at the 1951 rate. The fact that 5 of the 6 female cases were in the 20-25 age group shows the higher risk run by the latter. It

can only be hoped that as many women as possible will take advantage of the periodic visits of the Mass X-Ray Unit to Grantham, particularly in the first 10 years after leaving school.

Sanitary and Housing matters are fully dealt with by Mr. Dean in his report. As regards water, the wide fluctuation in the quality of the Lenton supply caused concern and it is urgent that the increased safeguard provided by superchlorination of this supply be installed as soon as possible. The Council is fortunate in that the quality of the treated water from this source has remained uniformly satisfactory (apart from local faults), but the present margin of safety is inadequate. It is scarcely necessary to mention the general frustration caused by the Ministry's refusal to allow development of the proved supply from the long Bennington Bore.

An attempt was made in the course of the year to increase the frequency of biological sampling of Milk. Even if the six-monthly standard aimed at is attained, it still must happen, with a positive sample, that the T.B. infected milk will have been produced for a period of 3 months on the average plus the six weeks required for the laboratory to report on the sample. This throws a heavy responsibility on the milk producer, particularly when he retails unpasteurised milk locally. Personal experience in routine inspections in schools and welfare clinics satisfies me that the 4 cases (all above 15 years, incidentally) of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified represents a gross under-estimate of the prevalence of milk-borne diseases.

In conclusion, I have to thank members of the Council and in particular of the Health Committee, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dean and all his staff for their unfailing courtesy and help throughout the year.

I am, Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. M. ROSS,

Medical Officer of Health.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifications of Infectious Diseases received during the year were :—

Age Periods	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Measles		Diptheria		Pneumonia		Polio-myelitis		Ery-sipelas		Para-typhoid Fever		Puerperal Pyrexia		Meningo-coccal infection	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
under 1 year	1		4	1	3	3					1									
1— 2 years	2	1	5	12	20	23			2											
3— 4 years			5	5	34	29														
5— 9 years	6	3	15	12	46	56			1											
10—14 years	1	1		1	7	11									1					
15—24 years					4				1								1			
25 and over	1			1		1			3	2	1			1			2	1		
Age unknown																				
TOTAL	11	5	29	32	114	123			7	2	2			1	1		3	1		

TUBERCULOSIS

New cases and Deaths during 1952.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year.								
1— 5 years								
5—10 years								
10—15 years								
15—20 years	1		1	1				
20—25 years	2	5	1			1		
25—35 years	4	1			1			
35—45 years	2							
45—55 years	1			1	1			
55—65 years								
65 and upwards	1							
Age unknown						1		
TOTAL	11	6	2	2	2	2		

WEST KESTEVEN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

1952

CAUSES OF DEATH					M.	F.	Total
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...		2	2	4
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	—	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	—	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	—	—	—
6.	Meningo-coccal infections	...	...		—	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	...	—	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...			1	1	2
10.	Malignant neoplasm stomach	...	...		4	3	7
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...			1	1	2
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...		—	4	4
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...		—	1	1
14.	Other malignant & Lymphatic neoplasms				13	4	17
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...		1	1	2
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	—	1	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...			11	14	25
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...		8	4	12
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...			—	3	3
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	23	23	46
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...		3	3	6
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	1	—	1
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	3	3	6
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	3	4	7
25.	Other disease of respiratory system	...			—	—	—
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...			1	—	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...			1	—	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	4	2	6
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...		—	—	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...		—	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...		—	1	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...			8	8	16
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	1	2	3
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	2	—	2
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	—	—	—
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...			—	—	—
All causes					91	85	176

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY
INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1952.

Sanitary Inspector and
Surveyor's Department,
Council Offices,
19, Watergate,
Grantham.
10th August, 1953.

To the Chairman and Members of the
West Kesteven Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Report for the year ended
31st December, 1952.

It is always pleasing to write a report upon a year's work when some progress can be quoted, even if it appears to be slow at times to the individual Councillor. When one looks back at the progress made in the years immediately prior to the last war, when perhaps twelve houses were built in one year or an odd mile of water main was laid, the progress made in the last five years can be assessed in its true perspective. New housing is being provided in increasing quantity each year. Even slum clearance has been re-started and will be able to increase, permitting the replanning of the black spots in some of the larger villages, where the houses look "rural" at the front, and "rubble" at the back.

The only health service which is sadly missing, and does not appear to be even within view, is the much-needed sewerage scheme. The tenant of a new council house appreciates perhaps more than anything else—a water closet. He often gets two. He is much better off than the majority of our school children in the rural district, who still have to make do with medieval conditions.

It will be noted that results of the sampling of milk for biological examination have been tabulated. It is hoped to increase the scope of this scheme, carried out on a County basis, as the results so far have more than justified it. It is considered that more attention should be paid nationally to the milk-borne spread of Tuberculosis and more serious attempts made to prevent its occurrence, in order that the routine sampling of milk can be

merely a safeguard, like the testing of water after chlorination, and not a means of tracing Tuberculosis.

The year's work would not have been so effectively carried out without the assistance and support from each Member of the Council and the Medical Officer of Health. Thanks are also due to the remainder of the staff for their continued support.

I am, Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. DEAN,

Chief Sanitary Inspector
and Surveyor.

HOUSING 1952

1.—Dwelling Houses Inspected.

(a) Inspections for Housing Defects	...	...	...	...	138
(b) Dwelling-houses found unfit	...	...	...	...	31
(c) Dwelling-houses found not fit in all respects	...	...	...	...	95
(d) Re-inspections and visits to work in progress	...	...	...	...	73
(e) Re-Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	9
(f) New Buildings (Supervision under Building Byelaws)	...	...	...	...	250
(g) Re Council House Repairs	...	...	...	...	560
(h) Housing Sites, Surveys, Inspections of works in progress	...	...	...	...	472
(i) Temporary Housing	...	...	...	...	125
					<hr/> 1753 <hr/>

2.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.

(a) Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority	...	...	...	...	21
(b) Informal Notices served	...	...	...	...	42

3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936

(a) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	...	6
(b) Number of Dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	...	...	...	...	—
(c) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	...	—
(d) By owners	...	...	...	...	—

B.—Proceedings under the Public Health Act.

(a) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied after service of formal notice	...	...	...	...	4
(b) Number of Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	...	...	...	...	3
(c) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	...	—
(d) By owners	...	...	...	...	3

C.—Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(a) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	...	15
(b) Number of Dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	—

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(a) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	...	5
(b) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms, in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	...	...	Nil

SUMMARY OF OTHER INSPECTIONS

Factories :—

(a) With mechanical power	3
(b) Without mechanical power	6
Slaughter-houses and Knackers Yards	2

Food Preparing Premises :—

(a) Fried Fish Shops	1
(b) Ice Cream Premises	36
(c) Other Premises	65
Cowsheds and Dairies	19
Milk Samples for analysis	61
Stables and Piggeries	2
Petroleum Stores	17
Water Supply	254
Water Samples for analysis	295
Sewer Dykes and Sewage Disposal Works	216
Infectious Disease Inquiries and Disinfections	23
Verminous Premises and Disinfestations	20

Drainage :—

(a) Colour tested	—
(b) Water tested	42
(c) Smoke tested	6
(d) Inspected	107
Scavenging Work	91
Tents, Vans and sheds	3
Camping Sites	—

Special Surveys :—

(a) Water Supply	174
(b) Scavenging	—
(c) Sewage Disposal	300
(d) Rural Housing Survey	1
Town and Country Planning, Inspections	—
Building Licensing	4
Miscellaneous	236

WATER SUPPLY

Further mainlaying was carried out during the year to the remainder of Fulbeck village and to Caythorpe from the North Kesteven Rural District Council's supply in Leadenham. Unfortunately, the North Kesteven supply is limited, and only 20,000 gallons per day can be provided, which considerably limits the extent of any further development in that part of the district until the new borehole at Long Bennington can be brought into operation.

As the Ministry of Housing and Local Government were unable to sanction any expenditure on the development of new sources of supply, the Council further considered all existing sources, in an effort to ensure that the remaining villages in the area had the benefit of an adequate and pure supply at the earliest possible date. The East Kesteven Rural District Council were consulted with a view to obtaining supplies from their sources, Air Ministry regarding a supply from R.A.F. Station Barkston to Ancaster village, and the Grantham Water Company. There is no doubt that without the assistance of the Grantham Water Company in making available supplies to many villages, those villages would still be waiting for water.

The quality of the raw water from the Lenton bore still varies considerably, and only on one occasion during the year was faecal coli totally absent. The supply is chloraminated but, as an additional safeguard, super chlorination is to be put into operation as soon as possible and the existing plant retained as standby equipment for emergency use. This method of treatment has recently been installed at the North Witham source where the raw water has been found to be of an unreliable quality.

It is difficult to attribute the pollution of the water supply in the limestone at Lenton to any particular source, or to relate it to rainfall and the water table in the limestone, as it has been found from records during the past three years that increased pollution has occurred both when the water table has been high and low, rapidly falling and rising. The provision of sewerage and disposal works, for the villages where sewage at present discharges into the limestone area, should make some improvement, but this is only part of the problem, as thousands of acres of agricultural land are known to discharge into the limestone through natural and constructed "Swallow holes." The Agricultural Executive Committee are continually carrying out much needed land drainage schemes in this area and often there is no practical or economic alternative to disposal into the limestone.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS—(i) RAW WATERS

	Motherford Spring NORTH WITHAM		Foxholes Spring COLSTERWORTH		Borehole LENTON		Borehole OLD SOMERBY	
	Coli-aegns count p 100 mls at 37°C in 48 hrs.	Faecal coli count p 100 mls at 44°C in 48 hrs.	Coli-aegns count p 100 mls at 37°C in 48 hrs.	Faecal coli count p 100 mls at 44°C in 48 hrs.	Coli-aegns count p 100 mls at 37°C in 48 hrs.	Faecal coli count p 100 mls at 44°C in 48 hrs.	Coli-aegns count p 100 mls at 37°C in 48 hrs.	Faecal coli count p 100 mls at 44°C in 48 hrs.
Jan	1	0	25	1	25	0	0	0
Feb	0	0	0	0	50	5	0	0
Mar	0	0	0	0	25	20	0	0
Apl	1	0	0	0	180 plus	25	0	0
May	13	3	0	0	180 plus	90	0	0
June	1	0	0	0	90	25	0	0
July	160	160	0	0	180 plus	5	3	0
Aug	35	35	0	0	25	13	0	0
Sep	13	13	0	0	35	11	0	0
Oct	35	8	0	0	25	5	0	0
Nov	0	0	0	0	180 plus	50	0	0
Dec	0	0	0	0	50	5	0	0

Bacteriological Examinations**(ii) Treated Waters**

Source of Supply	Place of Sampling	Category			
		1	2	3	4
Lenton	Bitchfield	19	1	3	1
	Braceby	—	—	—	—
	Sapperton	2	—	—	—
	Burton Coggles	20	—	—	1
	Ingoldsby	16	—	—	—
	Lenton	8	—	1	2
	Pickworth	5	1	—	—
	Ropsley	18	1	—	1
North Witham	Colsterworth	54	7	3	
	North Witham	4	—	—	
	South Witham	4	—	—	—
Old Somerby	Old Somerby	47	1	1	1
		197	11	8	6

Determination of Fluorides as Fluorine in the Limestone Sources of Water Supply

In view of the recent Government publication on "The Fluoridation of Domestic Water Supplies in North America as a means of controlling Dental Caries" the following results are submitted for information on the examination of samples of Water taken from the limestone sources during the period November, 1951, to February, 1953.

Date Sampled	North Witham	Skilling-ton	Colster-worth	Lenton	Old Somerby
6. 2.52	0.5	0.4	—	1.0	0.4
3. 3.52	0.4	—	0.6	0.7	0.1
2. 4.52	0.8	1.0	1.0	1.2	0.6
19. 5.52	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.3
9. 6.52	0.4	0.3	0.8	0.6	0.4
7. 7.52	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.6
13. 8.52	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.5
9. 9.52	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.4
1.10.52	0.8	0.5	0.8	0.9	0.7
4.11.52	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.4
10.12.52	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.3

Fluorides are stated to be "a fairly common naturally occurring constituent of many waters used for domestic purposes. The concentration varies in Great Britain from a trace to about 6.0 parts per million expressed as fluorine, but few water supplies contain more than 1 part per million." Dr. H. Trendley Dean, D.D.S., Director of the National Institute of Dental Research in the United States, reported in 1943 that the dental decay experienced in children of ages from 12 to 14 years was greater where the fluorides in the water supply were less than 0.5 parts per million, and less where the concentration was greater than 1 part per million.

From the above table it will be seen that the variations in the sources are as follows:—

- (a) North Witham source from 0.4 to 0.8 parts per mil.
- (b) Colsterworth source from 0.5 to 1.0 parts per mil.
- (c) Skillington source from 0.3 to 1.0 parts per mil.
- (d) Lenton source from 0.4 to 1.2 parts per mil.
- (e) Old Somerby source from 0.1 to 0.7 parts per mil.

Details of the number of Dwelling-houses supplied from the public water mains (a) direct to houses, and (b) by means of stand-pipes, are as follows :—

						DIRECT	STANDPIPE
Allington	...	...	...	...	...	89	—
Ancaster	...	...	...	...	...	24	128
Barkston	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Barrowby	...	...	...	...	...	115	100
Belton and Manthorpe	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Bitchfield and Bassingthorpe	...	...	...	...	...	38	—
Boothby Pagnell	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Braceby and Sapperton	...	...	...	...	...	20	—
Burton Coggles	...	...	...	...	...	42	—
Carlton Scroop	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Caythorpe	...	...	...	...	...	138	—
Claypole	...	...	...	...	...	202	—
Colsterworth	...	...	...	...	...	152	132
Denton	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Easton	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Fenton	...	...	...	...	...	19	—
Foston	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Fulbeck	...	...	...	...	...	133	—
Great Gonerby	...	...	...	...	...	217	—
Great Ponton	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Gunby and Stainby	...	...	...	...	...	37	—
Harlaxton	...	...	...	...	...	152	—
Heydour	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Honington	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Hougham	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Hough-on-the-Hill	...	...	...	...	...	31	—
Ingoldsby	...	...	...	...	...	64	—
Lenton, Keisby and Osgodby	...	...	...	...	...	103	—
Little Ponton and Stroxtun	...	...	...	...	...	3	—
Londonthorpe and Harrowby Without	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Long Bennington	...	...	...	...	...	257	—
Marston	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Normanton	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
North Witham	...	...	...	...	...	43	—
Old Somerby	...	...	...	...	...	41	—
Pickworth	...	...	...	...	...	31	—
Ropsley and Humby	...	...	...	...	...	150	—
Skillington	...	...	...	...	...	22	51
South Witham	...	...	...	...	...	85	—
Stoke Rochford	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Stubton	...	...	...	...	...	36	—
Syston	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Welby	...	...	...	...	...	7	70
Westborough and Dry Doddington	...	...	...	...	...	68	—
Woolsthorpe	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Wyville-cum-Hungerton	...	...	...	...	...	5	—
Totals						2324	481

HOUSING

It is pleasing to note the maximum permitted expenditure on improvement works under the Housing Act, 1949, has now been raised to £800. The report for 1951 referred to the then maximum of £600 being inadequate in view of the increased building costs. This increase, together with the relaxing of the conditions which permit of applications now being considered in the case of houses with service tenancies, has resulted in a much greater interest being shown and will contribute towards an improvement in housing standards.

Assistance has also been given during the year under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1938, as amended, for the erection of houses for agricultural workers. It is found that, generally, little or nothing is known by the public of facilities for providing and improving housing and once again it is suggested that national publicity on the lines adopted in the case of the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts would be beneficial.

Additional houses continue to be provided at a satisfactory rate considering the amount of labour and materials available and it has been found that a larger number of houses are being allocated to re-housing families from unfit housing conditions. One problem still to be faced is the rehousing of tenants of converted war-time buildings. Whilst there are many good tenants in these hutments, there are also some of the most unsatisfactory. The accommodation served its purpose in providing temporary shelter, but in the case of the more temporary buildings has outlived its allotted span and can no longer be sustained at a reasonable expense. More urgent attempts should be made to close these hutments by allocating houses for this purpose and in the case of the less desirable tenants, in the older council-owned houses.

SUMMARY OF HOUSING SURVEY

Category		Number Cate- gorised	Percentage of Total Surveyed
1.	Houses satisfactory in all respects	263	10.8
2.	Houses with minor defects ...	50	2.0
3.	Houses requiring repair, structural alterations or improvements ...	1670	68.5
4.	Houses for appropriate recondit- ioning	191	7.8
5.	Houses unfit for habitation and beyond repair at a reasonable expense	266	10.9

APPLICATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

(a) Considered by the Rural District Council

Received	...	...	...	...	...	9
Approved	...	...	...	...	...	7
Rejected	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Under consideration	...	...	...	...	...	2

(b) Submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government

Number submitted	...	...	...	...	7
Number approved	...	...	...	...	7
Number rejected	...	...	...	...	Nil
Number under consideration	...	...	...	...	Nil

ADDITIONAL HOUSES PROVIDED

Parish	Type	Number
Braceby and Sapperton ...	Traditional Brick	2
Caythorpe ...	„ „	4
Great Gonerby ...	„ „	2
Heydour ...	„ „	2
Long Bennington ...	„ „	2
Old Somerby ...	„ „	15
Ropsley ...	„ „	10
Sedgebrook ...	„ „	4
Skillington ...	„ „	8
Stubton ...	„ „	4
Welby ...	„ „	4

At the 31st December, 1952, the Council owned 498 houses as follows :—

Parish	No. of Houses					
Ancaster	30
Barkston	14
Barrowby	32
Bitchfield	6
Braceby and Sapperton	2
Burton Coggles	8
Carlton Scroop	16
Caythorpe	20
Claypole	42
Colsterworth	60
Fulbeck	8
Great Gonerby	46
Great Ponton	10
Gunby and Stainby	4
Harlaxton	6
Heydour	2
Hougham	2
Hough-on-the-Hill	21
Ingoldsby	16
Lenton, Keisby and Osgodby	6
Little Ponton	1
Long Bennington	12
Marston	12
Normanton	4
North Witham	4
Old Somerby	23
Pickworth	4
Ropsley	20
Sedgebrook	4
Skillington...	8
South Witham	19
Stubton	4
Welby	4
Westborough and Dry Doddington	10
Woolsthorpe-by-Belvoir	18
Total						498

NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS ON THE HOUSING REGISTER

Parish					Living or Working in Rural District	Living and Working out- side Rural District	TOTAL
Allington	...	...	...	...	19	6	25
Ancaster	...	...	...	...	49	12	61
Barkston	...	...	...	...	44	5	49
Barrowby	...	...	...	...	39	29	68
Belton and Manthorpe	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
Bitchfield and Bassingthorpe	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
Boothby Pagnell	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Braceby and Sapperton	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Burton Coggles	...	...	...	...	3	—	3
Carlton Scroop	...	...	...	...	11	1	12
Caythorpe	...	...	...	...	39	11	50
Claypole	...	...	...	...	20	8	28
Colsterworth	...	...	...	...	57	2	59
Denton	...	...	...	...	23	7	30
Fenton	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
Foston ...	...	...	...	...	9	1	10
Fulbeck	...	...	...	...	23	3	26
Great Gonerby	...	...	...	...	99	70	169
Great Ponton ...	...	...	...	...	26	8	34
Gunby and Stainby	...	...	...	...	4	—	4
Harlaxton	...	...	...	...	39	22	61
Heydour	...	...	...	...	9	—	9
Honington	...	...	...	...	11	1	12
Hougham	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Hough-on-the-Hill	...	...	...	...	3	4	7
Ingoldsby	...	...	...	...	3	1	4
Lenton, Keisby and Osgodby	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
Little Ponton and Stroxtun	...	...	...	...	4	—	4
Long Bennington	...	...	...	...	58	13	71
Marston	...	...	...	...	12	—	12
Normanton	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
North Witham	...	...	...	...	15	—	15
Old Somerby	...	...	...	...	57	38	95
Pickworth	...	...	...	...	2	2	4
Ropsley and Humby	...	...	...	...	19	5	24
Sedgebrook	...	...	...	...	9	2	11
Skillington	...	...	...	...	8	1	9
South Witham	...	...	...	...	50	6	56
Stubton	...	...	...	...	7	—	7
Welby ...	...	...	...	...	8	—	8
Westborough and Dry Doddington	...	...	...	...	7	2	9
Woolsthorpe by Belvoir	...	...	...	...	16	5	21
Total					812	266	1078

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

For years it has been reported that no new works were carried out and 1952 was no exception. However, a start has now been made on the long awaited scheme for the village of Skillington where the sewage discharges direct into the Cringle Brook and consequently into the Grantham Water Company's catchment area.

The provision of sewerage and satisfactory means of disposal to prevent the pollution of public water supplies, whether surface or underground, is of first importance and it is hoped that the Ministry of Housing and Local Government will support the Council in their efforts. Unfortunately, in many cases, schemes are needed where the subsoil is limestone which results in a high cost per house due to the cost of excavation. In fact, the average cost per house is more than some of the houses are worth.

Of the environmental health services, sewerage and sewage disposal is by far the most expensive, especially in rural areas. Unlike a water scheme, it produces no revenue and consequently tends to be placed well down the list in importance. The public cannot understand why it is possible for a local authority to provide sewers and a disposal works for a new housing estate when they, as ratepayers, helping to pay for those houses, are themselves denied such a benefit. In addition, without careful planning, works are apt to be constructed in connection with new housing sites, which at some future date will become redundant. This last point has been borne in mind as far as possible and, in the case of Great Gonerby and Colsterworth, where approval has been sought for a scheme to serve a housing estate, it has been carefully planned in order that it could be incorporated in a larger scheme in the future, thus avoiding any wastage of expenditure.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Refuse continues to be collected once every three weeks. This appears to be reasonably adequate but as the cost of collection was reduced by providing a "kerbside" collection only, a collection every three weeks does at times confuse the householder. A fortnightly collection would avoid this, although it is not considered to be possible whilst weekly collections have to be made from the Borough of Grantham's temporary housing estate in the Parish of Londonthorpe and Harrowby Without.

MEAT AND FOODS

The whole of the meat supply for the rural area continues to be distributed by the Ministry of Food from their central slaughter house in the Borough of Grantham and is inspected after slaughter by the Borough Sanitary Inspectors.

Routine inspections were made of butchers' shops and vans and other food shops in the area. Particular attention was again paid to transport cafes along the main roads and improvements were obtained to sanitary accommodation, washing facilities, food handling and storage.

RESULTS OF BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILKS

Parish	Number of Samples	Result	
		Positive	Negative
Ancaster	5	—	5
Barkston	1	—	1
Barrowby	1	1	—
Belton	1	—	1
Braceby and Sapperton	1	—	1
Caythorpe	3	—	3
Claypole	4	1	3
Colsterworth	2	—	2
Denton	2	—	2
Foston	2	—	2
Fulbeck	2	—	2
Great Gonerby	2	—	2
Great Ponton	1	—	1
Gunby and Stainby	1	—	1
Harlaxton	2	1	1
Heydour	1	—	1
Hougham	2	—	2
Hough-on-the-Hill	1	—	1
Ingoldsby	1	—	1
Little Ponton and Stroxtan	1	—	1
Londonthorpe and Harrowby Without	2	1	1
Long Bennington	2	—	2
Marston	7	—	7
North Witham	1	—	1
Old Somerby	2	—	2
Ropsley and Humby	2	—	2
South Witham	1	—	1
Stoke Rochford	1	—	1
Syston	1	—	1
Welby	3	—	3
Westborough and Dry Doddington	1	—	1
Woolsthorpe by Belvoir	2	—	2
Totals ...	61	4	57

It will be noted that about 6% of the total number
of samples proved to be positive

The following premises are registered for the manufacture, sale and storage of ice cream :—

Parish			Manufacture	Sale & Storage
Ancaster	...	...	—	3
Barkston	...	...	—	1
Barrowby	...	...	—	1
Caythorpe	...	...	—	2
Claypole	...	...	—	2
Denton	...	...	—	1
Foston	...	...	—	3
Fulbeck	...	...	1	4
Great Gonerby	...	...	—	2
Ingoldsby	...	...	—	1
Harlaxton	...	...	—	1
Hougham	...	...	—	1
Londonthorpe & Harrowby			—	1
Long Bennington	...		—	4
Ropsley	...	...	—	2
Skillington	...	...	—	3
South Witham	...	...	—	2
Stoke Rochford	...		—	2
Woolsthorpe-by-Belvoir			—	2

In every case where the registration is one of sale and storage only, the ice cream is pre-packed and purchased from a large manufacturer outside the area.

Reports upon ice cream samples submitted to the Ministry of Health Laboratory were as follows:—

	Provisional Grade			
	1	2	3	4
No. of Samples	19	4	1	Nil

RAT AND MICE DESTRUCTION

The full-time rat catcher has again been working in close co-operation with the Kesteven Agricultural Committee and this has resulted in better control being exercised and immediate attention given to reported infestations.

	Type of Property				TOTAL
	Local Auth- ority	Dwell- ing Houses	Agricul- tural	All other (includ'g Business & Indus- trial)	
I. Total number of prop- erties in the District ...	15	4811	474	61	5361
II. Number of Inspections during 1952 :—					
(a) notification ...	—	19	23	10	52
(b) otherwise ...	15	405	26	25	471
III. Number of properties infested by rats :—					
Major	4	12	10	15	41
Minor	11	151	10	25	197
IV. Number of properties found to be seriously infested by mice ...	—	—	—	—	—
V. Number of infested properties treated ...	15	163	20	40	238
VI. Number of Notices served under Section 4.					
(1) Treatment... ..	—	—	—	2	2
(2) Structural Works (i.e. Proofing) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—	2	2
VII. Number of cases in which default action was taken by L. Authy.	—	—	—	—	—
VIII. Legal Proceedings ...	—	—	—	—	—
IX. Number of “ block ” control schemes ...	—	—	—	—	—

BUILDING INSPECTIONS.

The following plans were deposited for approval during the year.

Dwelling-houses — new ...	...	...	...	...	26
„ „ alterations to	...	...	...	...	30
Farm buildings — new ...	...	...	...	...	3
„ „ alterations to	...	...	...	...	—
Factories — new ...	...	...	...	...	1
„ alterations to	...	...	...	...	1
Other buildings — new ...	...	...	...	...	10
„ „ alterations to	...	...	...	...	3

PETROLEUM AND CARBIDE OF CALCIUM LICENCES

Number in force (Petroleum)	...	...	...	...	...	78
Number in force (Carbide)	...	...	...	...	...	3
New licences (Petroleum) ...	...	...	...	...	...	12
New licences (Carbide)	...	...	...	...	...	—

FACTORIES ACT 1937

1. INSPECTIONS

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspect- ions	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities ...	40	6	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local Authority	31	3	1	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding out-workers premises)	—	—	—	—
	71	9	2	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were institut'd
	Found	Re-medied	Referred to H.M. by Inspector	Referred to H.M. by Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation ...	1	1	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences—					
(a) Insufficient	3	3	—	—	3
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act	—	—	—	—	—
	5	5	—	—	3

